THE CUSTOM HOUSE COMMITTEE.

Additional Revelations Corruption.

THIEVERY AND ABUSE OF PATRONAGE

How Murphy Offered a Man a "Place, with Little Work," if He Would Politically Support Him.

Climpses of the Process of Harmonizing the Party.

Very Little About the General Order Business.

The Custom House Committee met again yesterday morning at the Astor House. The session was a long one, and a resolution was passed, providing that in future night sessions shall also be beld at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

The lottowing letter and affidavit were read A BUCKINGHAM, Chalcuan ...

A. Buckingham, Chairman: Obvious, Jan. 15, 1872;
Deak Sin—I forward berewith the affidavit of the examing clerk and verifier, openers and packers who opened and ammined in this department the case of goods referred to in ecommunication of Messra. H. S. Claffin & Co. to you on the the Instant. From these affidavits it will appear to your stiefaction, I think, that the case was not robbed, while in in department, and that the "one dozen silk soaris" had been ken therefrom before it was received here. Very respectably.

United States Appraiser, Port of New York.

United States Appraiser, Port of New York.

Oity and County of New York, w., —Clarence W. Mead, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is an examiner in the Fifth division of the United States Appraisers' Department of the port of New York. That on Friday, January 5, 1872, he received on his floor from the Collector's Department of Public Stores case marked "40 in triangle, 4 beinw," No. 466, ex steamer Abysinia, marked by the Collector as having been received by him in had order. Hefore having the case opened I called for the Veriher of our division. The case was opened in our presence: all the goods were taken out of the case and carefully counted and checked on the invoice by the werfier, and we found that one dozen sits scarfs (the mark 8 26) short, at a value of fifteen shillings sterling, which fact I duly reported to the Collector of the Port and to the representatives of the irrn of Mensys. H. B. Clafin & Co., the insporters of the said case. The case was in bad order and had svery appearance of having been tampered with before its receipt by the department to while the propose P. Kellet, Notary Public.

This affidavit was corroborated by affidavits of

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Hall and Patrick Leyden, openers and packers. Mr. H. B. Ciaffin then gave the following evidence:—Have done business in this city for twenty-eve years; my relations with the Custom House have generally been satisfactory; think the charges of the general order stores rather large; have frequently been requested to sign petitions against the fused on the ground that an honest man has nothing to fear; I think the setzures a safeguard.

Witness was then questioned in regard to the loss of scarfs in one of his packages, but said he knew bis Custom House man. He would like to see the general order business divided among all the steamhip lines which have convenient means of delivery

Mr. Benjamin F. Mudgett stated he was appointed Deputy Collector in 1862 and remained so until 1872; while in office he heard daily of officers receiving gratuities for performance of service; merchants ave told him. ever since this investigation began of inspectors making them pay for not sending the firm of Bigelow & Johnson who so informed him; the general order means unclaimed goods, which, when merchants are not prepared to make their entries, are taken to the general store; Leet & stocking have the whole general order business North River, which is the chief seat of European Importations. The witness went on to state that in Mr. Grin-nell's time he spoke to Mr. Grinnell, advising him to resist the disgraceful system of permitting adventurers to come on here from Washington and so get all the "plums;" Mr. Grinnell said he should resist it; Mr. Rodney J. Mason subsequently informed him that Mr. Louis Dent was to come down on the Mr. erinnell to give the plum to the parties looking for it; the demand on Mr. Grinnell was of the general order cartage and lighterage to the party: Mr. Mason sold him he was one of the party, and that the rest consisted of General Porter, the President's private cretary, Colonel Leet and Mr. Lindsay; Mr. Dent. wao is the President's brother-in-law, came to the Custom House to speak to Mr. Grinnell, but it ap-peared he did not succeed then; witness was told by several in the Custom House—Deputy Collector Williams and others—that General Porter came down from Washington and visited Mr. Grinnell on the subject, after that the Collector gave an order to send the goods to the Bixby's store, Mr. Bixby having made his arrangement with Porter, Leet and John B. Lindsay; Mr. Bixby told witness that he paid Colonel Leet \$5,000 a year; Colonel Leet was on General Grant's staff at this time, and remained in Washington in the War Department a year after this arrangement; at the end of a year Leet & Co. got the general order business. The witness stated further that when he was in Mashington, about a year subsequently, General The witness stated further that when he was in Washington, about a year subsequently, General John Cochrane waited on him and said General Porter would like to see him; they went together and General Porter said he heard witness had heen telling people that he (General Porter) was interested in the New York customs. Witness related all he knew, just as he has done to the committee; waereupon General Porter assured him that nether himself. Babcock nor Leet had anything to do with anything in the New York Custom House, and explained Leet's attempt to get the business by means of the President's letter; but said Mr. Grinnell's reply was that he could do nothing for Colonel Leet, as he had already given the Leneral order business to Mr. Bixby, for public reasons.

Senator Casserly—And all this time, how long had Colonel Leet been receiving \$5,000 a year from Bixby out of the general order business? A. Something about a year.

had Colonel Leet been receiving \$5,000 a year from Bixby out of the general order business? A. Something about a year.

PROFITS THE PRESIDENT'S PRIENDS ARE MAKING.

Mr. Mudgett was next questioned as to the amount of business done under the general order system. He said he knew of no more valuable gift. The amount of business is enormous, and Leet, Stocking & Co. must be making \$160,000 to \$250,000 a year net profit—that is, over and above all expenses.

The witness, in reply to a question from Mr. Bayard whether he thought the officers make compromises in the cases where merchants' papers are seized, answered, "Of course they do."

Mr. Mudgett declared he is aware that the officers are assessed for political purposes and that the practice is still continued. The payments are, in most cases, involuntary, for they know they would have to quit if they refused. A Mr. Forrest, private secretary to Governor Fenton, was appointed Naval Officer. He was removed by General Merrit and subsequently appointed to the Post Office by peremptory order of Postmaster Jones from President Grant.

Mr. Henry C. Lake, having been sworn, was, after

subsequently appointed to the Post Office by peremptory order or Postmaster Jones from President Grant.

Mr. Henry C. Lake, having been sworn, was, after a few pretiminary questions, allowed to testify to the facts alluded to in General Palmer's evidence. He gave the following testimony:—I communicated the information that General Palmer's evidence. He gave the following testimony:—I communicated the information that General Palmer's evidence. He gave the following testimony:—I communicated the information that General Palmer's evidence. He gave the following testimony:—I communicated the information that General Palmer's evidence. He gave the following that the testimony of the Treasurer, Mr. Mansleid; General Palmer's message, I understood, was, that while the General was appraiser Thompson told nim "you have a very lucrative office," and went on to explain how it might be made so by an arrangement with the merchants, and offered himself to make these arrangements if he were allowed to share the profits; I was appointed weigher about the lat of May, 1869, and held the position and the lat of May, 1861; I was removed under Mr. Murphy: I never knew any cause for removal, such as inattention or incorrectness in business: I was removed to make room for another man; four of us were removed at that time; I was a republican as I explained to Mr. Boutwell, when I was in Washington; I had at various times more or less men under me—sometimes thirty; the men were appointed at the instance of the Collector; assessments were made by the State Central Committee; I never knew of but one case where a man was directly threatened for such a reluxal; as a general thing men are removed without any cause being assigned, though sometimes I may known a man to go to the Custon House and got the reasons for his dismissal; my judgment has always been that the force of laborers with the weighers is too large; I think the Custon House conducted on the same principles as those which gailed a private firm; I think there are more weighters

hess.

Henry Shaw sworn—Do business in Greenwich street: am an importer of Irish linens; I have great trouble with my goods, owing to their being put away in the general order store in such a confused fashion that we cannot get at them; the embarrassment from this cause is very serious; the steamers ought to give us longer time to get our permits

out, instead of thus rushing goods into the general order store; a gentieman told me the other day that as there was detay with his goods he went down to see about them himself, and the behavior of the cierk was such as to leave no doubt of the latter expecting a gratuity in order to put the things through; my friend was very indignant and at once threatened the clerk that if he did not have his permit immediately he would report him at Washingion; he then got his permit.

Q. Wint is the mame of that gentleman? A. I would rather not say; we do not like to get the ill will of these fellows; they have power to give us any amount of annoyance.

Q. But in this case boldness had the good effect of procuring the permit—why should not it have the same effect upon every other rascal? A. I do not know; these rascals have great power; they can delay our goods just as they please; we do not like to get their lil-will.

The witness was then questioned in regard to the general order business, He thought that every bounded warehouse should be a general order warehouse as well, though all these stores should be on this side of the river. So as to avoid use delay of crossing the river to clear the goods.

Christopher Paliman, having been sworn, testified in regard to the primary election in the fwenty-live ware, in regard to the general affairs of the Custom House is quite as much the faut of the thought there has been fool blay against himself, and that he was defeated in consequence of it. He then tessified in regard to the general affairs of the Custom House is quite as much the faut of the merchant as the clerk; ten days after my appointment a merchant handed a note over my desk containing a 510 oill; he said, "There's a refund due to no of \$110; there has been a mistake in our bust; he can be a fine that he was defeated in the custom House.

Q. Is the Collector likely to hear of this system of bribery? A. No, sir; but I am confident that there is a great deal of this business done—sometimes done, however, I ought to say,

nesses; I should think the chances would be against the clerk.

Q. Do you think a New York merchant would be alruid to accuse a Custom House cierk of malpractices? A. I do; I think small nouses are oppressed, while large ones are not; If a merchant should compain to the Secretary of the Treasury, even if he succeeded in the case, it would northin with the other cierks; the clerks have great power to delay the passage of goods, and in a way that the merchant could not find out, much less ninder; I have myself seen a clerk put an invoice in a pigeon hole and let it lay there for hours, until a Custom House broker called him aside and "persuaded" him to put it through; I think, however, that if a merchant showed himself determined to have his rights the cierks would soon cease to annoy him; I merchant showed himself determined to have his rights the clerks would soon cease to annoy him; I myself, if I were a merchant, would go to the Col-lector in ten minutes if I found a clerk hindering

myself, if I were a merchant, would go to the Collector in ten minutes it I found a cierk hindering my business.

By Senator Bayard—At this primary election you have spoken of was the Collector present? A. Yes, sir; he was there and worked actively; I have no doubt that the Collector mixes in the politics of other districts than that in which he lives and that the cierks in the Custom House hold their positions simply by obeying the wishes of their official curief—the instructions of the Collector.

Q. Have you any knowledge of money being exacted from Custom House officials for political purposes? A. It is generally understood that that is the case; when I was a cierk I was asked for money, out replied that I knew what to do with it; I have no personal knowledge of money being used by Custom House people to control a primary; I have heard, however, that Collector Murphy gave an inspector 5500 in this last primary election to carry it in his interest; sometimes officials participate in elections out of their own district; I have seen strangers at such elections who have voted.

By Senator Pratt—in the particular election you have alluded to you only criminate the inspectors?

A. I was told by a credible man that Collector Marphy told him that he would rather pay \$5,000 than lose that election.

Q. Were you removed when you refused to pay an

lose that election.

Q. Were you removed when you refused to pay an assessment? A. No, sir: but other men have told me that they have been discharged for such causes; when I was clerk Mr. Barney was collector, who did not take the same interest in politics that later me that they have been discharged for such causes; when I was clerk Mr. Barney was Collector, who did not take the same interest in politics that later Collectors have done; Mr. Murphy offered me positions; he proposed that I should be made Deputy Collector, and offered to turn out another man to make a place for me; soon after he was appointed he sent a telegram to me; at the interview in his private room he said he had a high estimate of my character, and asked I he could do anything for me personally; I declined, on the ground that he could not give me an appointment that would pay me to give up my business; subsequently, a friend having suggested that this was a mere political trick, I called on Mr. Murphy and said I had changed my mind and would accept the position of cashier or auditor; this was to test his sincerity; he replied that he could not do that for me, but that he would give me a place that would not take up much of my time and would not necessitate my giving up my business; I then said that I would not take a place unless I gave the government full service; I did not expect that Mr. Murphy would turn the men out of the places to make room for me; I had heard that the another was not competent; I think there are offices in the Custom House which I could not take without great preparation, but I could fill the place of either easher or auditor.

Charles S. Grant sworn-Am a reporter and correspondent for the public press; was in the Custom House as inspector of customs and clerk in the Ap-praiser's Department; was appointed on the 3d of House as inspector of customs and clerk in the Appraiser's Department; was appointed on the 3d of July, 1889, and removed in April, 1870; on Thesday, 2d of January, 1871, I went into the Collector's outer office and met Mr. Perry, a friend of mine, who had been inspector in the primary election just alluded to; he told me that an arrangement had been made by Mr. Murphy, Mr. Arthur and Mr. Haw, and that If he signed the oredentials as they requested he was to nave his promotion; Mr. Haw had come out of the inner office, where the arrangement had been made and had said to Perry, "it's all right; sign the credentials;" Perry had replied, "you have me, then, but I shall not have you?' Haw replied, "That is all right;" Perry also told me that there had been repeating, and that the election had not been a fair and honest one; Perry also said to me that certain officers of the association had not been a fair and honest one; Perry also said to me that certain officers of the association and named him as one of the inspectors to Mr. Haw, and that Haw had appointed him very refuentially; Perry has signed the credentials on the 26th December; it was altogether unusual for the credentials of an election to be held over in that way; they are always signed on the night of election; I made much the same statement that he did to me, have the names of three other parties to whom Perry Q. Do you know anything about the Custom House controlling the last two State Conventions; A. I was at the last Syracuse Convention; there were about sixty Custom House officials there, including the collector; the result showed that they succeeded in controlling the Convention.

Q. What about political assessments? A. I know that a man went round with a last for subscriptions; on pay day I was requested to pay, and I did so.

Q. Do you know of Custom House people controlling primaries with money? A. I have been told that Mr. Murphy offered Mr. J. W. Thompson \$500 to carry a primary in the Twenty-first ward in his interest; it was carried by carry

who was very hadly hurt with a loaded cane; I had previously heard art. C. S. Spencer tell the captain of the hall.

Q. Did you ever make an application to Mr. Murphy for an office? A. Yes, sir, at his own request, and at another time a recommendation was made by General Arthur and others in my behall.

Q. Do you mean that if an assessment is not paid a man is turned out? A. Weil, that is pretty much about the music that is circulated about the lime of election.

William H. Decamp sworn—Am a lawyer; was in the Custom House as an entry clerk in the naval office from 1st of August, 189, thi October, 1870; I was detailed to attend to the collection of dunes on the baggage of passengers; I cannot say of my own knowledge that bribes are received by inspectors; the inspectors would examine the baggage and bring dutuable goods into our office; I was removed for political causes only, so far as know; soon after Mr. Murphy was appointed Collector he sent word to me to call upon him; on meeting him he stated that he meant to do what he could to harmonize the party in the city and State, and desired that bygones should be bygones, and desired that bygones the selection of delegates to the state Convention; it was known that it was and had been a riend of Senator Fenton; I was president of the district association in the Twenty-second ward; names were talked over, and we agreed flually upon three gentlemen to send to the Convention; this was contrary to the usua account street naving six and the other two associations three delegates each to a special committee; a reorganization was effected; the result of this was that there were seventeen out of the twenty-one Assembly districes in which the Twenty-second street party dominated. The witness then emercial into a minute explanation of the aquabiles and irregularities that occurred, detailing the swamping of the Twenty-second street com-

mittee by the entry of unauthorized persons through the windows, and tracing the gradual acquisition of power by Mr. Murphy, and the consequent division of the party. He continued: —Waen Mr. Murphy was appointed Collector I had opposed his confirmation by getting up his politice, record; when he said, "let bygones be bygon," I don't think he referred to that especially, but to all matters in dispute between the two parties; we only harmonized on the delegates to the Convention a ter a great deal of discussion; two or three months after I had been removed by Mr. Murphy I was given an office in the Pire Marshal's Department by the I olice Headquarters; I did not apply for it, but it was given to me; there were four Police Commissioners, two republicans and two democrats; the Mayor is now an ex-officio member as well. as well.

The Committee then adjourned.

REPUBLICAN CENTRAL COMMITTEE. Report on Contested Scats Not Yet Ready. The room devoted to the selling of soda water, ginger pop and like drinks in Apolio Hall during the many terpiscoorean gatherings that make this place their headquarters in the winter time was last night crowded to excess by the members of the Republican Central Committee to hear reports and transact such other business as this important political body would were out in force. Like a tidal wave they overwhelmed the limited capacity of the room, and scores were compelled to stand up, packed together closer team sardines. As this is the Custom House representative administrati element in the city there is much derepublican strife that exists and threatens evil to the party hereabouts. Prominent among tho who occupied the higher seats in the synagogu-were General Arthur, Collector of the Port, an Charley Spencer. Mr. Hugh Gardner, the temporary chairman of the committee, presided, and John J. D'Brien and George W. Lyon acted as secretaries, At eight o'clock the committee was called to order, but before proceeding to business a member, not unlike President Grant in appearance, struck dismay into the hearts of many present by moving that smoking be prohibited during the evening. He asked if there was not a rule of the committee lorbidding the practice during their deliberations, and if there was none he hoped the general parliamentary rules governing such cases would be adopted. The room was small, the celling low and many had sensitive fullers. The poisoned air was enough, but the smoke intolerable. Chairman Gardner didn't know of any rule, either of the committee or of one general in its character, that would be are not the case, and seemed disposed to think any trifling with this dear ruxury of man was a little too muon of a good thing. But the smokers were defeated, and in a short time the room became somewhat pleasanter.

The roll was gone over, when the report on contested seats was called for. The chairman of this important sub-committee said that it was yet in complete: they desired to say that the utmost harmony had measanter.

Mr. Lampherk desired to say that the utmost harmony had measant.

ress.

Mr. Lamphers desired to say that the utmost har-mony had prevailed in the committee, and no doubt the same pleasant state of affairs would con-tinue,

Mr. Lossier moved that when the meeting ad-ourned it should be until the first Wednesday in journed it should be until the first Wednesday in February.

Mr. Spencer wished that the time of adjourn-Mr. SPENCER wished that the time of adjournment would not be so indefinite. It was his earnest wish, and the wish of every friend of the administration, that the various contesting delegations would settle their differences among themselves, and not bring them before the general body. It was most important at this time that personal feelings should be buried for the common good. He therefore moved that the committee meet two weeks from last night to hear the report on contested seats, which was carried. The body then dispersed, after providing to obtain a larger room for inture meetings.

THE KINGS COUNTY DEMOCRACY.

There was a stated session of the Kings County Democratic General Committee held last evening, Tunis Morocco Algiers Bergen, ex-Member of Congress, in the chair. The hall, which is on the third loor of the building corner of Montague and Court streeto, was thronged by an unusually large audience of ward politicians. It was understood that a test case was to be moved, or in other words, that a new move would be made of an unusual revolutionary character. The interest centred upon the test entered by the dissatisfied members of the despectors of election, who are returned each year in said ward. A petition was presented from Supersaid ward. A petition was presented from Supervisor Sheridan and several others asking the committee to appoint three inspectors of election for the ward in place of the elected officials. A motion to that effect was made, and upon a vote being taken the Chair decided that the yeas had it. Great confusion ensued, annel which Commissioner of Charties Mr. Thomas Foran moved that the matter be laid on the table. Carried. Be then moved that the room be cleared of those who were not members of the committee. Carried. The committee then went into executive session, and a numerous and dissatisfied element walked off breathing their "vows of getting square."

POLITICAL MOVEMENTS AND VIEWS.

Election of Grant and Colfax.

AUGUSTA, Me., Jan. 16, 1872. The Kennebec Journal, formerly edited by Speaker Blaine, and presumed to reflect his wishes, contains a long editorial this morning warmly urging the renomination of Vice President Coirax. mous delegation for Grant and Colfax.

The Pennsylvania Democracy Speak. Senator Wallace, of the Pennsylvania Legislature, wrote a letter lately to the President of the Young course of which he said:-

The imminent dangers that threaten the republic in the re-election of General Grant should impel us to sink all minor objects in the effort to avoid them. To save the government is our first duty. One of the greatest means to this great ond is the preservation and perfect discipline of our organization. Its thorough training and energetic action are indispensable prerequisites to a victorious contest. Ardent devotion to the fundamental doctrines of the constitution is its bond of strength, and it could not be silent when they are in jeopardy. Millions of men rally to its standard because it is and ever has been true to these doctrines, and danger to liberty, distraction and division would inevitably follow its disbandment. While the constitution lives the democratic party can neither sleep nor die. The certainty of this fact serves to demonstrate the necessity for that breadth of yiew and progressive spirit that shall find the practical means to unite in a harmonious and irresistible whole those masses of men whose opinions on the graver issues of the day are identical and whose desires lead to the accomplishment of the same great object.

Miscellaneous. The imminent dangers that threaten the republic

Miscellaneous.

A despatch from Augusta, Me., (January 13) to the Portland Argus states "that it is reported on good authority that the disagreement existing between speaker Bialne and Senator Morrill as regards the ension Agency appointment here has been amica bly settled. General Seldon Conner, it is said, is to have that position, and Mr. Franklin Drew, the other contestant, is to have an auditorship in Wasii-

General Grant and General Logan nave become econciled, and Logan converted. Vice President Colfax has given up smoking, but

he still "smiles." John Hall, the West Virginia member of the National Democratic Executive Committee, has resigned, in a letter, in which he says:—"I would greatly prefer to belong to some liberal conservative and progressive State organization, that in name, at, was not chargeable either with rebeilion or proscription, if such an organization existed."

James G. Cooper, for many years connected with the press of New York and Brooklyn, has been elected, by acciamation, Clerk of the House of Rep-

ANOTHER POST OFFICE ROBBERY. Yesterday afternoon Detective Gaylord arrested J

Really, who has for some years been Assistant Superintendent of the foreign mail department of the Post Office, on a charge 1of purloining moneys from the letters passing through his hands. The evidence against aim is said to be folly sufficient for his conviction. He was taken before the United States Commissioner and committed.

THE STATE MILITARY A: 80CIATION.

At Albany yesterday the State Military Associa tion—a sixteenth wheel to a lively one-horse buggy—met in selenth session. As usual, they thought out nothing, suggested nothing, did nothing. Colonel Church delivered an address, full of wise maxims and useful mins, which the association listened to with respect. It is expected that when the association adjourns the National Guards of the State will be more belogged than eyes.

THE PARSONS ON FISK.

The People on the Parsons-Spicy Correspond. ence on the Sermons of Sunday-Unchristian Christians-The Charity That Suffereth Long and is Kind Lacking in the Pulpits-Fisk No Worse Than Other Men-A Small Mark to Shoot At.

WILLIS RISES TO EXPLAIN.

We published on Monday a sermon from a Metho dist minister which was in many respects remark-able. Rarely have we seen it equalled in bitter ness of spirit or boldness of expression, and when, as the preacher acknowledged, Christianity and humanity demanded that he should tread lightly and speak gently, he grew flerce in his denunciations and deliant in his abuse of the dead.

James Fisk is dead, and the snows of Vermont cover his newly raised grave. He cannot reply the standers nor can he be affected by anything good or bad that may be uttered against him live, and they are many, and their number has greatly increased within the past week. The Rev. Mr. Willis has, perhaps, more than any other ministhe dead Fisk, helped toward this result. The numerous letters which we this day publish will give tribes as Mr. Willis' in forming or changing the general character of the community. There is in society an innate love for fair play, and white it conns with equal severity the assassin and the DEPAMERS OF THE LATE COLONEL FISK,

it does not either intentionally or by implication defend or applaud his vicious acts, which have been made the basis for sensational discourses.

all classes, have but one sentiment in common in regard to the pulpit utterances of last Sunday. Men and women, Christians and sinners alike note the lack of charity and Christian sympathy manifested by the ministers. While they unqualifiedly and vehemently condemn the murdered man, they touch the assassin very lightly, if at all. How un-

touch the assassin very lightly, if at all. How unlike the words of some of the parsons who preached about James Fisk were the last words of Mr. Fisk himself, who hoped that he might live

TO SAVE STOKES FROM THE GALLOWS.

We think that any impartial and unbiassed judge will see herein more of the spirit of Christ than they will find in the productions of the pulpits. Some of our correspondents very pertinently ask of the parsons the same question which the Saviour propounced eighteen hundred years ago to a self-righteous crowd, who wished him to pronounce judgment upon an unfortunate woman. "Let him that is without sin among you cast the first stone," It does seem to us that something of this spirit would better become the Christian ministers than the wholesale condemnation of Fisk in which they have induiged.

would better become the Christian ministers than the wholesale condemnation of Fisk in which they have induiged.

One of our correspondents is so religiously indignant as to demand a public meeting to condemn such pulpit sensationalism, which is contrary to the spirit and teaching of Carist and His Aposlles. Another writer thinks that if the ministers spent more time in secret prayer in their closets they would be more charitable toward the erring, which is the interest property of the contract of the con

peration and
DEFAMATION OF EVEN GROSSLY WICKED MEN
form any part of Christianity or of the duty of a
Christian minister. Neither do we; and we fully
agree with him that the maintrity of language used
agrainst Mr. Fisk is enough to make one shidder.
But we submit the letters themselves as fair expressions of the public mind upon the latest sensation.

against Mr. Fisk is enough to make one shudder. But we submit the letters themselves as fair expressions of the public mind upon the latest sensation.

Below will be found a so the substance of an interview with Rev. Mr. Willis, who acknowledges that his only sources of miormation regarding Mr. Fisk's character were newspaper reports and second hand testimony from perhaps interested parties. The HERALD has frequently condemned clergymen for their 16Morant Condemnation of the mind sand things with which they might have become acquainted, and of which, in common justice, they ought to have known something before they spoke or else have held their peace, Mr. Willis thinks it was sufficient excuse for him not to have "precand as much to Mr. Fisk as he did about him;" that "Mr. Fisk kept himself where no minister nor Christian gentieman can safely enter." If that is so it is a said comment upon the respectability of the Christianity of the present day, which is wasting its energies and destroying its power. Not such was the religion taught by Carlst nor the example He let to His Church. Adulterers, thieves, swindlers and men and women guilty of every crime with which Mr. Fisk has been charged, and of many more which have not been laid at his door, were not too low for the Saviour's notice, and the world to-day finds a hinge upon which to hang a hope of mercy even for a Judas or a Barabbas. But Christian ministers in this city in the inneteenth ceatury can be side of instice, and the world with his money, and many instances where he has done have no business to comment on it with the mind the present day, which is wasting its energies and destroying its power. Not such was the religion taught by Carlst nor the example He let to like the grave cover all his faults; let it by isters in this city in the nineteenth scarcely accord even this to poor Fisk.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-Will you allow me through the medium of your valuable paper to say a few words relative to the remarks made by different ministers on the life and character of the late James Fisk, Jr., last Sabbath? After carefully reading them over I was surprised to see so little charity exhibited by men calling themselves followers of Carlst. They can tell nothing of his late career in line that the public are not already informed of, therefore they might better have employed their time and eloquence in preaching the dospel, thereby following the example of their Master, who said, when the guilty woman was brought up for judgment, "He that is without sin, let him cast the first stone," and again, "A multitude of sirs shall be covered by CHARITY."

P. S.—I would suggest that on next Sabbath the ministers take for the subject of their remarks the tragedy lately enacted by their brother minister in England. Perhaps to him they will extend see so little charity exhibited by men calling them-

Rev. Mr. Willis Auswered.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—
Please give insertion to answer to Rev. J. T. Wilis. In a sermon published in Monday's HERALD the reverend gentleman asks "a hinge to hang a beam of blessedness for the deceased Mr. Fisk."
"The hinge to hang a beam of blessedness"—
Fisk's dying words of forgiveness to his assassin:—
"Dector, i hope I may live to save Stokes from the gallows."

CHARITY.

gallows."

God never fails in His promises, "Forgive and
ye shall be forgiven" are the words of Holy Writhence his salvation and "the hinge and the beam".

NNA.

Some Questions by a Woman. TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:—
While so much is being said on the subject of the

late trazedy, can you spare a little space for the side of charity? We have all been taught to look upon our ministers as examples of Christian charity, but the sermons published in Monday morn ing's HERALD dispel all such belief in some, at least, of our so-called Curistian ministers. If those least, of our so-caned contribute ministers. If those ministers feared so much the example set before the young, why did they not deliver their sermons during the life of James Fisk, and make an attempt to reform him they considered so depraved? Does Caristian religion teach us to drag before the world all a brother's errors, while his virtues are left untout? Would it not be more Christ-like to speak of the good he has done?

Alasi for the rarity
Of human chrity
Auder the sun!

Had Coionel Fisk given \$1,000 occasionally to
some Church or missionary society, instead of bestowing it on private enartities, to be unknown to
the world until his death, there could not have been
enough said in his praise. Whatever his
faults may have been, there would have been
extenuation for them. Are there not pienty of
men in our miost to-day, and among those
who say the most against him, who
have as many sins to answer for as he ever had, and
possess, perhaps, lewer virtues? Are they any
notice because they give a few dollars to the Church
and make a pretence of piety, while a needy object
of charity would be turned from their doors?

Let his errors be buried with him. It will do the
world more good to hear of his virtues than of his
sins. I trust the Rev. Mr. Whits thought he was
teaching a good lesson to his flock; but how could
he, after preaching so uncharitable a zermich, repeat the words. "Forgive us our trespasses as we
lorgive those who trespass against us?"

A WOMAN.

A Member of Mr. Willis' Congregation

Speaks.
To the Editor of the Herald:-

In looking over the columns of your valuable paper this morning my attention was called to some of the sermons preached in several of our city churches, especially in the Seventeenth street Methodist Episcopal church, by the Rey. J. S. Wil-

essed of fine feelings to humanity and also to the rtunate James Pisk, Jr., I ask the o at large will they suffer the ministers of our gospel Churches to ascend their pulpits and scandalize and ridicule the sleeping dead, that cannot speak for himself, before a congregation, as was done last Sabbath. Rather let there be a meeting called at once to suppress this kind of preaching in our sister Churches, as it tends to do more narm than good with our young, old and middle-aged of the land. I say if there is one minister or individual in our midst that is perfect and without sin, let him come forward and cast the first stone. Christ said there is none perfect, no, not one. And now, my sincere advice to the Churches, the ministers of the Gospel, and the community at large, is to let the dead rest. James Fiss, Jr., the deceased, has gone to a just God; one that is only able to judge; the judge of all the earth, and it is God that is able to change the neart of man in the twinking of an eye, Let the ministers of the different Churches read and reflect on this grand subject, and rather let them pray for the repose of the soul of the dead Colonel Fisk; that he may find rest and peace for his soul with his God in that bright world above, in that haven of eternal rest that is beyond the skies, where all malice, sin and sorrow is done away with and Christ is all, and in all. Amen.

A CONSTANT READER OF THE HERALD. Churches to ascend their pulpits and scandalize and

A CONSTANT READER OF THE HERALD.

In reading the sermons of Sunday last in the HERALD of Monday on the character of Fisk I can-

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-

not resist the unpulse to ask the reverend divines a charitable. Do they think our Divine Master would have defamed the character of the dead? Would they, if they foliowed in the footsteps of a mack and lowly Jesus, have done so? Has He not in His Divine Word told us that of faith, hope and charity the greatest of them is charity erreth not, charity the greatest of them is charity erreth not, charity vaunteth not and is not puffed up, but beareth all things and hopeth all things. Where is their charity, to show the worst side of a man's life, and, even after death, no oright side? For shame! Let him that is without sin cast the first stone. Could one of the reverend gentlemen have done so? Could they have thrown the stone, thus proclaiming their creedom from sin or wrong-doing? No, sir; I protest not. Are we not prone to evil, even as the sparks fly upward? Is one of us perfect? Why not let the dead rest! Why not let the God to wnom he has gone be his Judge? Can we not let his soul rest with his Maker? Or do the reverend divines think the God of our universe is not competent to know and judge the world He has made, but would require the very efficient aid of the divines to aid Him in disposing of His own? Can we not leave his sins, his virtues, his shortcomings to Him who has told us to judge not lest we be judged? We have heard of his sins, of his manifold vices and of his going astray, but do we hear of his virtues? No, not of one. But a vampire of a thousand tongues proclaims all the shortcomings, without one redeeming quality. Have not all natures some redeeming quality. Have not all intures some redeeming quality. Have not all impurities and proneness to sin before ye judge the dead. Wny not let the memory of the dead be as carefully handled the memory of the dead be as carefully handled the memory of the dead be as carefully handled the memory of the dead be as carefully handled the second of the memory of the dead be as car have defamed the character of the dead? Would

proneness to sin before ye judge the dead. Wny not let the memory of the dead be as carefully handled as we would wish the memory of our own beloved ones, sinned they ever so deeply? CONSTANT READER.

What a Methodist Thinks. TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD:-

Sir-I have long been a reader of your excellent paper, and up to the present time have never replied or taken any notice of any article; but Monday's paper contained an article with the subject of which the public at large are so familiar, in the perdoes from the Christian pulpit, that I cannot hold my

sins of a dead man, he ought to be enogized on the good he has done and his wrongs buried with him.

What I think of such ministers is, that the world is, perhaps, blinded by the Church to faults that may be as dark and black as those referred to in the person of the dead "Time," but because they are not known to the world they walk on before their flock as being very innocent. But to such I feel a strong inclination to say, can you "cast the first stone?" I have long looked upon ministers as nothing more than men; I think such scandai from any human person is too bad. What are the feelings of his friends who mourn his loss—just as much as any of us would were we to lose our relative—when their eyes trace over such lines as came from the mouths of some of the ministers yesterday in regard to their late relative?

I hope the day is not far distant when men will be willing to look only upon the better qualities of men and become blind to all evil. The subject of this article it is well known has done much good in the world with his money, and many to-day mourn his loss who would have suffered for bread if it had not been for his helping hand. Many to his charities were hidden from the world, but his faults were not. This was one of his peculiarities, and we have no business to comment on it now. I hever knew Colonel Fisk, Jr., personally, but I know of many instances where he has done good, and I honor his memory for them, and will only say, jet the grave cover all his faults; let them be settled by his Maker.

A Western Man on the Parsons.

A Western Man on the Parsons.

generally on the side of justice, and strikes the chords of the public heart pretty often. The HERALD

has taken the conservative ground between violent condemnation and extravagant praise of Fisk, I know the people in the West, and the HERALD's view of the character of Fisk will be that of the public mind and heart. We have had the opinions of the most learned and unlearned divines and of many of the best writers of the New York press. A Western man's opinion may not be uninteresting to the man's opinion may not be uninteresting to the Herald readers. If you desire to ruin a principle and disgust men with it, carry it to an extreme; be bigoted, be fanatical, be monomanucal in advocating it, and the best part of numainty will turn from it with loading and disgust. I believe in the principles of Christianity, and practice a few of them; but I do not think they sanction vituperation or frenzied defamation of even wicked dead men. The unorthodox world is only too ready to catch at every famil of Christians and Christianity, and good that up to derision and redicting frenzied detamation of even wicked dead men. The unorthodox world is only too ready to catch at every fault of Christians and Christianity, and nord that up to deriston and ridicule, but when Christian ministers endeavor, by almost insane zeal, to drag people into the paths of virtue, by holding up as an example of sin and sinners the character of a man who was known to have some virtues, and speak of hill in language too violent for a mob leader or a pothouse politician, I think they furnish arguments and objections to themselves and their mode of teaching more powerful than could be accumulated by the most subtle interlects and inveterate prejudices of atheism or deism. The defenders of Mr. Fisk's character seem to rush into the same violent extreme that the other parties do in detaming it. One represents him as a concentration, a personification of all simulness and moral degradation, and the others present him as a paragon of all manify qualities and since over his vices. This violent and prejudiced defence and condemnation of a man's life and character does not appear just. I have spoken with men of refinement, culture and morality, who, if a word was said in condemnation of Fisk, were angry and even personal in their language, and Christianity shudder at the violence, injustice and even malignity of their language. I have read the Herald more of less since Fisk appeared upon the arena of the New York world, and must say, from the knowledge of Fisk thus gained, that he was a man of great virtues and great vices. He deserves, and it is the right of the community to demand, an acknowledgment of his gigantic business capacity, his generosity and his courage; and society demands that his vices, his unscrippliousness in business operations, and disregard of the interfects of others when his own were involved, be condemned. Hold up, for the consideration and warning to young men, his vices and his death, and in the name of the charity of Christians and ministers and the priess give him credit for courage in acti WILLIS' DEFENCE.

The sermon of Mr. Willis on the character of

James Pisk, Jr., was so remarkable as a pulpit pro-duction, and created such a sensation in religious circles and elsewhere, that a reporter called upon the gentleman jesterday to ascertain his sources of information regarding the life and character of the man about whom he had uttered so many and such hard things. Mr. Willis declared that he had no persomal knowledge or acquaintance with the late rail-road magnate, and had be ever come in contact with him or with the editor of the RERALD, who criticised him so severely he would utter his sentiments just as irrely and fearlessly as he had done on Sunday. The editor had stated that if he (Willis) had preached as much to Mr. Fisk as he did about him the "Prince of Erie" might have been saved from his vicious course of life and prepared for his untimely end. "But," remarked Mr. Willis, "Mr. Fisk and the men of his class keep themselves gen-

crally where no minister nor Christian gentleman can salely enter. And that is probably the reason that none have sought him out. I don't consider that hir. Pisk was a worse man than hundreds who live in our milist to-day. I don't think he was assassin; but he was more openly and fagrantly wicked, and his example affected mulintudes of young men more perniciously than his con'reress, I knew Mr. Fisk only from newspaper report and from the testimony of members of my congregation who were either employes or associates of his. And for their sakes I deem it my duty to warn them of his example. I should have considered him a small mark to shoot at were it not for this fact. I am not a lover of sensationalism, as the Heralin editor intimates, and rarely induige in such sermons. But if preach from the Bible I must take up the characters of public men whose lives have passed into history. Mr. Fisk was a public man and a bad man, and his life and character are now matters of current history, and I have a right to draw such lessons of warming and reproof from them as I may for the benefit of the young. My own life has been a battle against my inclinations and a continuous effort, by the help of Divine grace, to make a good man out of a bad one.

I think the community were, in a sense, as much to blame as Mr. Fisk for what he was. He round society and circumstances ready to his hand and he used them for his own unnoly agyrandizement. But, as I said in my sermon, this community is now in a turmoil trying to undo the evils which Mr. Fisk and he men of his stamp have brought upon its and the prints of the country also, and they cannot be too stronally condemned. The pulpit and the press should strike hands in this work and make common cause against a common foe.

Air. Willis again referred to the Heralic beditorinal, which, he said, he considered on the whole fair enough, but he thought in some particulars was inclined to be too severe on him. But he believed in free apsech, and considered that he himself, being a criticise

A REMARKABLE BANK SIEGE.

The Run on the Third Avenue Savings Bank-Slow Payments but Slight Decrease in Numbers Yesterday-Growing Suspicions of Its Insolvency—A Detailed Exhibit of the Bank's Affairs Demanded.

At three o'clock yesterday the twelfth day of the prospect for a cessation of hostilities than when the first charge was made, on the 2d of January, by a frightened out well behaved mob of several hundred people, whose hard-carned savings were locked up there. When the doors were opened vesterday

there were depositors about the building, III of whom had been admitted at the side door on tickets, fifty-one without tickets, and about fifty were without, braving the storm and cold in anticipation of getting in. The interest clerk, Mr. Seaman, took the paying teller's desk, and slow progress was made, the average for the first two hours being about eighteen payments per hour. Mr. Seaman was subsequently replaced by Mr. Weeks, who, for some time, paid much more rapidly, and the latter portion of the day the active manipulator of

Mr. Spenser, served the people quite satisfactorily and courteously. During the five hours of the day, from ten to three o'clock, sixty-nine persons were paid and about twenty-one extra books, making total books paid ninety, or at the rate of eighteen per hour for the entire day. The rate of payments the previous day was twenty-one per hour. When

NINETY-THREE PERSONS UNPAID, and tickets being issued to them the gentlemanly Actuary, Mr. Tutnili, mounted a chair and an-nounced that they would be admitted by the side extra books the payments to persons holding tickets to-day will be 101. As certain unenterprising papers persist in declaring that the run has ended, the above figures are given that the public may not

Total admissions yesterday 162
Paid during the day 69

drawals yesterday could be better calculated in ounces than in number of bills, and one or two-reached into the positions.

The feeling of the depositors continues to be one of NON-CONFIDENCE IN THE INSTITUTION and its stability. This has been increased by the failure of the trustees to come out manifully and succincily detail the character of their securities and their actual value on the market. Some depositors, more intelligent than others, whisper the belief that some of their savings have been invested in deprectated Southern stocks; but these surmines cannot be verified except by the trustees.

The run upon the bank has been the most remarkable that has ever occurred in this city, and if the trustees prove their solvency and their right to deserve the confidence of the thousands who save, much of the money recently drawn out will find its way quickly back to its coffers, and the bank will become one of the most substantial in the city. This can only be done by

FAIR AND HONEST STATEMENTS

that it is the duty of the trustees to make, and failing, the duty of Bank Superintendent Howelt to insist upon securing.

There are straige stories told by the friends of the

falling, the duty of Bank Superintendent Howelt to insist upon securing.

There are straige stories told by the friends of the bank regarding the Tarrytown property, which the trustees in their statement reported in the market \$1,000 per acre. It was stated on Monday to a Herallo reporter that the trustees had formed a pool to buy it, but on taking legal advice they found themselves debarred by the law, and the offer to purchase finally came from Mr. Warring, partiar of Mr. Harison, one of the trustees and compset of the bank. Mr. Harison, on being referred to, most emphatically contradicted this story, so far as his law partner is concerned. As the trustees and all the attachés of the institution, with the exception of Messirs. Owen, Lvon, Green and Cornell and Detective Leal, avoid the recorters, it was yesterday impossible to learn whether the property had been sold.

impossible to learn whether the property had been sold.

The police, under Captain Cameron, Sergeants Rooney, Groo and Randail, and Roundsmen Schuitz and Philip, are daily in attendance, protecting the depositors from roboery and preserving order. Captain Cameron's men have been so completely exhausted by continuous duty that details from other precincts daily report for duty; and as there is a bare probability that the run is likely to continue, the Captain is considering the propriety of asking the Commissioners to rent a building in the neighborhood temporarily and establish a sub-precinct of police, where the men can be lodged and fed until the end comes.

FRANKLIN'S BIRTHDAY.

The Ceremonies at the Unveiling of the Franklin Statue To-Day.
To-day, Franklin's birthday, the Franklin statue,

in Printing House square, will be unveiled. The ceremonies promise to be very interesting. The Rev. Dr. Prime is to preside, and the statue will be unveiled by Professor S. F. B. Morse. The presentation speech will be made, in Mr. De Groot's name, by Horace Greetey, and in behalf of the press and printers Charles C. Savage, President of the Board of Trustees of the New York Typographical Society, of Trustees of the New York 17 pographics Society, will receive the gift. The general committee having in charge the ceremonies request newspaper establishments and employing printers to allow their employes time to attend the celebration. In the evening a banquet will be given at Delmonico's, at which will be present prominent newspaper men, and distinguished invited guesss.

An Estoppel on the Efforts of the Chippews Indian Investigating Committee-Amending

the State Constitution.
MADISON, Wis., Jan. 16, 1872. The Senate this morning received a message from.
Governor Washourn vetoing the bill passed to enable the Chippewa Indian Investigating Committo compel the attendance of a witness, on the ground that, the terms of a majority of the commitee as memorrs of the Legislature having expired. said persons were merely private citizens, and could have no such power as the oill attempted to confer. In the Assembly a joint resolution was offered for an amendance to the constitution, providing for ninety-nine members of the Assembly, to be elected for two years, and thirty-three members of the Senate, to be elected for lour years, and also for bicanial sessions and cumulative voting.